THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir. As per available information, employment generation in the small scale sector has actually shown an upward trend.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) A comprehensive policy package for Small-scale industries and Tiny sector was announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 30th August, 2000.

A study group on development of Small Scale enterprises was set up in the Planning commission and action initiated on the major recommendations.

Payment of statutory dues

5337. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that jute mills are defaulting heavily in payment of statutory dues like P.F., E.S.I. D. A. Gratuity, Bonus etc. to their workers;

(b) if so, whether government have effected any action to recover these dues from the jute Mill Owners who exploit the workers; and

(c) if so, the details of the recovery and the outstanding dues for last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to recover the outstanding statutory dues of the jute mill workers, the government has resorted to various recovery action as well as prosecution action prescribed under the law.

(c) During the last three years approximately Rs. 93 crore has been recovered and the outstanding statutory dues as on 31.03.2002 were approximately Rs. 297 crore.

Cutting of trees in Bhavishya Nidhi Enclave

5338. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 10 big trees were cut down and removed in Bhavishya Nidhi Enclave, New Delhi without any permission